

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 122218
ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 SS-15 PM-05 SP-02 EB-08 L-03
INR-10 IO-13 H-01 /074 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:ABERLIND/AD
APPROVED BY D/LOS:ABERLIND
-----096393 131334Z /41
R 122234Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

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STADIS/////////
FOR USDEL LOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: STATUS OF DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION

1. H.R. 3350 IS CURRENTLY IN HANDS OF THREE COMMITTEE STAFFS, WHO ARE SEEKING TO ARRIVE AT COMMON TEXT TO SEND TO RULES COMMITTEE AND THENCE TO FLOOR. PROBLEMS IN THREE AREAS PROMISE TO PREVENT BILL FROM GOING TO FLOOR BEFORE CONCLUSION OF SEVENTH SESSION:

--A. GRANDFATHER CLAUSE (STATE 113057) MEETING STRONG RESISTANCE FROM TREASURY AND OMB ON GROUNDS IT IS DISGUISED INVESTMENT GUARANTEE AND THEREFORE CONTRAVENES PRESIDENTIAL GUIDANCE. LEGAL OPINION FROM JUSTICE BEING SOUGHT ON URGENT BASIS.

--B. MURPHY REPORTEDLY WANTS TO TIGHTEN UP FLAG REQUIRE-
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PAGE 02 STATE 122218

MENT ON ALL CATEGORIES OF VESSELS BEFORE RELEASING BILL, WITH OTHER COMMITTEES RESISTING.

--C. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE IS TROUBLED OVER PLAN TO HAVE WAYS AND MEANS INTRODUCE REVENUE-SHARING PROVISIONS AS AMENDMENT FROM THE FLOOR RATHER THAN HAVING IT INCLUDED IN BILL BEFORE IT GOES TO FLOOR. CONCERN IS THAT

AMENDMENT COULD BE EASILY DEFEATED IF VOCAL DETRACTORS WIN

OVER GENERAL APATHY. MOREOVER, DETAILS OF WAYS AND MEANS
VERSION OF REVENUE SHARING PROPOSAL STILL IN DISPUTE.

2. S.2053 UNLIKELY TO MOVE SOON TO COMMERCE COMMITTEE
MARK-UP IN ABSENCE OF EXTERNAL STIMULUS OR BEFORE H.R.
3350 GOES TO FLOOR. IF FOREIGN RELATIONS WERE THEREAFTER
TO ADD REVENUE-SHARING PROVISION (NOW ABSENT), FINANCE
COMMITTEE WOULD SEEK REFERRAL. UNDERSTAND ARMED SERVICES
ALSO HAS EYE ON S.2053.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SEABED, MINING, LAW OF THE SEA, LEGISLATIVE BILLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE122218
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ABERLIND/AD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780203-0954
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780562/aaaacavc.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b226969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN DLOS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2702197
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION
TAGS: PLOS
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b226969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014